

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 AGRE-00 COME-00
TRSE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 SP-02 L-03 /067 W
-----005015 271808Z /43
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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7224

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DEPT PASS AID AND DEPT OF AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR EAID EG US
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN REQUEST FOR CORN

1. WHEN MEETING WITH SADAT AND VP MUBARAK, MARCH 25, THEY AGAIN RAISED WITH ME GOE'S URGENT REQUIREMENT FOR CORN. THIS WAS THE THIRD OR FOURTH TIME IN THE LAST MONTH THAT ONE OR ANOTHER OF THEM HAVE RAISED IT. MINSUPPLY ZAKARIA TEWFIK HAS ALSO RAISED SUBJCT WITH ME SEVERAL TIMES. HE HAS INDICATED REQUIREMENT OF 100,000 METRIC TONS (MT) OF CORN.

2. I TOLD THEM, AS I HAD BEFORE, THAT GOE CAN OBTAIN CORN THROUGH CIP LOAN SIGNED FEBRUARY 27. I ASSUMED MINISTRY OF ECONOMY WOULD MAKE APPROPRIATE ALLOCATION TO MINSUPPLY FOR THAT PURPOSE. IN ORDER TO PROCEED, HOWEVER, PEOPLES ASSEMBLY RATIFICATION OF THAT LOAN IS NECESSARY SO THAT MINJUSTICE CAN FORMALLY ADVISE US THAT AGREEMENT IS LEGALLY IN EFFECT ON EGYPTIAN SIDE. I HAD BEEN ASSURED AT TIME OF SIGNING LOAN AGREEMENT THAT EXPEDITIOUS ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN TO OBTAIN PA RATIFICATION. TO BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, ALTHOUGH ALMOST A MONTH HAD PASSED, THE AGREE-
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MENT WAS NOT YET RATIFIED.

3. SADAT GAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO MUBARAK TO TRY TO GET THE AGREEMENT RATIFIED BY PA TODAY. DO NOT KNOW IF THIS WILL BE POSSIBLE, SINCE AT LAST REPORT IT WAS STILL IN PRIMIN'S OFFICE WAITING TO BE SENT TO PA. HOPEFULLY, MY EXCHANGE WITH THE PRESIDENT WILL EXPEDITE THE PROCESS.

4. IN ORDER TO INFORM MINISTER OF ECONOMY HAMED EL SAYEH, I CALLED HIM TODAY TO TELL HIM OF SADAT'S URGENT WISH TO OBTAIN CORN THROUGH THE LATEST CIP LOAN AND URGED THAT ADEQUATE ALLOCATION BE MADE FOR THIS PURPOSE. AID DIRECTOR BROWN HAS ALSO DONE SO WITH EL SAYEH AND GAMAL EL NAZER. EL SAYEH ASSURED ME THAT ADEQUATE ALLOCATION WOULD BE MADE AND SAID MINSUPPLY ZAKARIA TEWFIK HAS ALREADY BEEN AUTHORIZED OBTAIN BIDS FOR 100,000 MT OF CORN WHICH WOULD BE PAID THROUGH CIP LOAN. EL SAYEH CLAIMED PA REVIEW OF THE LOAN WOULD OCCUR TODAY. IN MEANTIME, USAID STAFF IS WORKING WITH MINSUPPLY ON POSSIBLE CORN TENDER WITH OPENING DATE OF APRIL 15. HOPEFULLY CERTIFICATION AND LEGAL OPINION WILL BE COMPLETE BY THEN. USAID WILL COMMUNICATE SEPARATELY WITH AID/W OVER THIS PROPOSED TENDER. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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